



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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**Linda McCulloch
Superintendent**

DATE: December 28, 2004

SUBJECT: School Food Safety Inspections – Reauthorization 2004

TO: School Food Authority Administrators

FROM: Christine Emerson, Director
School Nutrition Programs

Section 111 of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 amended section 9(h) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act regarding food safety inspections required in schools participating in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs.

Beginning July 1, 2005, each school participating must now obtain at least two food safety inspections each school year. The inspections must be conducted by a state or local government agency responsible for food safety inspections. In addition, schools must post, in a publicly visible location, a report on the most recent food safety inspection. Schools must also provide a copy of the food safety inspection report to a member of the public upon request.

Beginning in the 2005-06 school year, School Nutrition Programs will be required to submit a report on food safety inspections in the state of Montana to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service. School food authorities will be required to provide School Nutrition Programs documentation on the number of food safety inspections conducted at each school for each school year. Further guidance on this process will be issued prior to the next school year.

If you have questions, please contact School Nutrition Programs, (406) 444-2501.